

Co-financed by the European Union Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T)

Studies on maritime ports

Railway Advisory Group October 1st, 2014 Rotterdam

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1. The statement

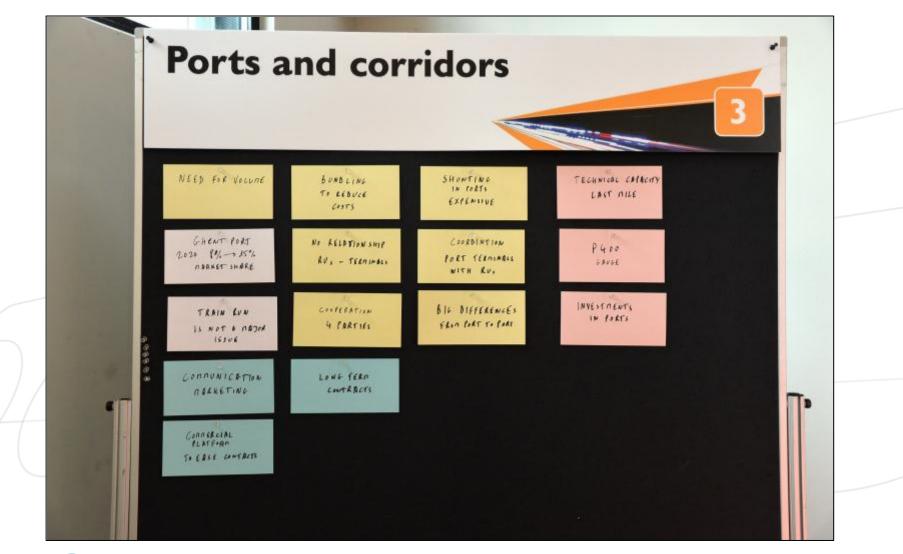
- Transport market study: better accessibility of the maritime ports is seen as prospects for the corridor by stakeholders
- **Ghent conference**: all ports have ambitious long term objectives for rail market share, but the main obstacle is rail competitiveness



- first/last mile costs are more expensive than the train run
- volumes are too low so there is a need for bundling parties involved cannot use contractual relationships to solve problems as 3 to 4 categories of parties are often involved in this organisation process



Ghent conference 20 March 2014







Action plan (1)

An action plan to optimise rail freight transport in maritime ports was presented at the last TAG meeting (26 June 2014)

Themes: supply chain management, first/last mile issue, traffic organisation, exchange of information between parties, diagnostic of the state of the infra, assessment of infra needs, etc.

- Within ports or in marshalling yards at the entrance of ports
- Studies could be done directly by the rail IM or by consultants steered by him
- With due regard to confidentiality, the main elements of these studies could be shared with the RFC 2 TAG as they may be relevant for other terminals



Action plan (2)

Following the TAG meeting, **Flemish ports** (Ghent, Antwerp, Zeebrugge, Zealand Seaports) organised a meeting with the EEIG + the BE ministry to inform that they are interested in such studies



- they wish to increase the rail market share for the haulage of goods in their hinterland
- they reiterated that the main obstacle is the inefficiency of rail operations in the ports themselves



Studies which have been launched

- Infrabel is currently performing a study to assess possible improvement of operations in the **Port of Antwerp**
- RFF is finalising a study in Grande Synthe, the marshalling yard at the entrance of the **Port of Dunkirk**





RAG's opinion on rail operations in ports

Other studies could be considered.

To help the Management board identify a prioritised list of studies to perform in ports, the RAG is welcome to give its opinion on rail operations in ports.



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